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West Berlin: An outdoor rally planned this Sunday by organizers of the anti-Vietnam Congress could well lead to violence.

Congress sponsors, including the radical Socialist German Student Federation, appear determined to test the newly expressed resolve of authorities in Bonn and Berlin to keep student unrest in bounds. Mayor Schuetz appears determined not to back down or temporize, lest he suffer the fate of his predecessor, who quit last fall after failing to cope with the growing student problem.

Principal target for the Sunday demonstration is the US headquarters complex in the southwest part of the city. Rally leader Rudi Dutschke has urged participants to wear raincoats and protective headgear and to use flagstaffs and placards as weapons against the police. Although the demonstrators may number more than 5,000, the police should be able to prevent the full impact of the demonstration from reaching the headquarters area.

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Panama: A struggle for control of the election machinery is dimming the prospects for a peaceful election on 12 May.

Government candidate Samudio, faced with a likely defeat at the polls by National Union candidate Arnulfo Arias, appears determined either to control the electoral process at any cost or to postpone the elections. The struggle is centered on authority within the key electoral tribunal, which now favors Arias.

Samudio scored a tactical victory in getting National Guard Commandant Vallarino to reinstall a Samudio supporter as head of the tribunal's documentation office. For their part, Arias' followers are now considering a special session of the National Assembly to impeach President Robles for electoral misconduct. Arias says he hopes to work out a legal solution. He warns that if the government moves to postpone the elections he will use his majority in the assembly to replace Robles with First Vice President Del Valle, an Arias supporter.

The current conflict could erupt into violence and put Vallarino in a difficult position. He has tried to remain neutral, but he has been under pressure within and outside the Guard to support Samudio. Violence in the streets could force Vallarino to side with the government or, as a last resort, intervene and take over himself.

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